South Vietnam Expels Marks, Co-Author of Book Hitting CIA

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SAIGON, Dec. 27—South Vietnamese immigration authorities today expelled John D. Marks, co-author with Victor Marchetti of the controversial book, "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence."

Police said Marks is on the official Interior Department blacklist of persons the government considers undesirable —a list that is maintained at all points of entry.

Marks arrived here several days ago and was able to enter at Tansonnhut airport, near Saigon, because of sloppy work by immigration authorities, a police source said.

Later, the source said, Interior Department officials discovered the error. Last night police went to a private apartment where Marks was staying and took him into custody, the source siad.

Police took Marks to dinner at La Cave, one of the most expensive French restaurants in town, then this morning ushered him out to Tansonnhut and put him on a flight to Bangkok.

It could not be learned why Marks' name was on the official blacklist, although his book contains a large amount of information about clandestine CIA activities in South Vietnam.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said Marks was a State Department officer in South Vietnam in 1966. The spokesman said he was setting up routine interviews for Marks with embassy officials at the time of the expulsion.

Marks said he was writing an article on South Vietnam for Harper's Magazine, the spokesman said.